



Indiana Department of Education

Glenda Ritz, NBCT
Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Title I and Title II Quarterly Updates From the Office of Federal Title Grant Programs and Support July 2016

Jeff Barber, Linda Cummins, Katie Dillon, Sarah Fields, Lloyd Garrison, Elizabeth Lamey, Bill Luther, Brenda Martz, Heather McManamon, Kristin Reed, Lenee' Reedus-Carson, Linda Rusthoven, David Ryan

Important Title I, Part A & Title I, Part D Due Dates

July 1, 2016

Due date for Title I, Part A Basic Application 2016-2017; Due date for Title I Delinquent Application (Part D; Subpart 2 and State Agency/ Institution Subpart 1)

<https://title1.doe.in.gov/login.aspx?logout=true>

July 8, 2016

DOE-TI Report Data collection window
July 8 – September 19, 2016.

August, 2016 (tentative)

Title I Staffing Report data collection
window August 26 – October 24, 2016

September 30, 2016

Last day to expend SY 2015-2016 funds
for Title I, Part A & Title I, Part D

October 1-15, 2016

Last day to request reimbursement for
SY 2015-2016 funds

October 28, 2016

SY 2015-2016 Final Expenditure Report
due date

Our office welcomes Heather McManamon and Kristin Reed! Heather is working as our Fiscal and Data Reporting Specialist and Kristin is our new Federal Policy Coordinator. Please see page 4 for the updated staff directory.

Title I Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are we required to encumber Title I funds by June 30th?

A: No, LEAs are no longer required to encumber Title I funds by June 30th. LEAs have the full 15 month period of availability.

Q: I am a new Title I Program Administrator. Are there any webinars or PowerPoints that can provide guidance?

A: Yes, the Title I Website and the Learning Connection have webinars and guidance documents that can support new Title I Program Administrators.

Title I Website: <http://www.doe.in.gov/titlei>

IDOE Learning Connection: <https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov/Login.aspx?ret=/default.aspx>

Q: Are gift cards an approvable Title I expense?

A: No, gift cards are not an allowable expense, as there is no guarantee the card will be used on educationally-related purchases. This includes, for example, gift cards issued as door-prizes, gift cards issued to teachers for supplies, or Apple gift cards to download software on iPads and iPods.

Title I, Part A and Title I, Part D Grant Application Flexibility

All Title I applications (Part A and Part D, if applicable) were due to the IDOE on July 1, 2016. This is a Federal deadline and cannot be adjusted; however, if additional time is needed to thoroughly complete the grant, submit the grant application to be date stamped and the Title I Grant Specialist can then immediately return it to the LEA. Please send the Title I Grant Specialist an email requesting that the grant application be returned to LEA Edit, if this option is necessary. If you have questions, please contact your assigned Title I Grant Specialist.

Promising Practices

The number of school corporations and schools selected for recognition in honor of the Promising Practices initiative continues to grow each month! The IDOE will recognize 200 Promising Practices to celebrate Indiana's Bicentennial by December. Please check out the Promising Practices website to read about best practices from LEAs and schools across the state:

<http://www.doe.in.gov/outreach/promising-practices>

Contact Information

If there is a change in the contact information for the superintendent, Title I, Title II and/or Title III program administrator and/or program treasurer, please send the updated information to Linda Cummins cummins@doe.in.gov. As you complete your Title I grant application, please also be sure to update the contact page.

Title II, Part A Reminders

FY14 remaining funds must be encumbered by September 30, 2016.

FY14 final reports are posted on the Learning Connection and are due December 15, 2016.



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Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Updates

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) is working with State Education Agencies, like the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), as federal law transitions to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). As we continue to work through USED's rule promulgation, we will keep schools and administrators updated on any new finalized items.

Implementation of ESSA begins in the 2017-2018 school year; however, the following regulation will begin in the **2016-2017 school year**:

D-3. Must a school continue to comply with section 1111(h)(6)(B)(ii) of the ESEA, as amended by NCLB, which requires a school to notify parents when their child has been assigned to, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified?

No. USED is not requiring States to comply with the requirements in section 1111(h)(6)(B)(ii) of the ESEA, as amended by NCLB, beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

Schools will no longer be required to provide notice to parents related to the highly qualified status of their child's teacher, if the non-highly qualified teacher has taught for four or more consecutive weeks in a classroom.

Please note: LEAs are still required to notify parents that they may request and the LEA will provide certain information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's teachers and paraprofessionals, as appropriate. (Parents' Right-to-Know letter).

The Parents' Right-to-Know letter must still be distributed early in the school year to parents in Title I schools. The letter must be signed by the Superintendent and evidence of distribution must be kept. Acceptable evidence will be a mailing receipt or parent signatures or a combination of both.

The following regulation also takes effect beginning in the **2016-2017 school year**:

C-7. Must a State and its LEAs continue to comply with the requirements in section 1119 of the ESEA, as amended by NCLB, which describe certain highly qualified requirements for teachers?

A State and its LEAs must continue to comply with section 1119 of the ESEA, as amended by NCLB, through the 2015-2016 school year, including the requirement that a State and LEA report information related to highly qualified teachers based on the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years.

USED is not requiring States to comply with the requirements in section 1119 of the ESEA, as amended by NCLB, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, which set forth requirements for highly qualified teachers and use of funds to support compliance with the highly qualified teacher requirements. (Updated May 4, 2016)

Please note: Schools are no longer required to have teachers complete the Highly Qualified Teacher Verification form.

Schools must continue to comply with the **paraprofessional requirements** in place on December 9, 2015. Each State and its LEAs must continue to ensure that each paraprofessional who is hired by the LEA and works in a program supported by Title I, Part A funds has a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and has completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education, obtained an associate's or higher degree, or met a rigorous standard of quality and can demonstrate, through a formal State or local academic assessment, knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing, and mathematics. (Updated June 29, 16)

Q: Is there updated information from the USED about ESSA?

A: Yes, ESSA FAQ from USED (updated June 29, 2016):

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/essafaqtransition62916.pdf>

Title I, A Tips and Reminders

1. The Indiana Department of Education is in the process of transitioning to updated IT systems. This transition includes a change in the server upon which the Title I application system operates and this shift will require the use of a new URL to access the application. **The updated URL is <https://title1.doe.in.gov/login.aspx?logout=true>.** Please copy and paste the new URL address into your web browser and discontinue use of the old URL.
2. All completed nonpublic school consultation forms must be submitted with the Title I grant application.



Title I Allocation Update

In order to ensure that FFY 16 (SY 16-17) planning allocations were provided to all LEAs in time to allow the applications to be submitted by July 1, 2016, those allocations were calculated using the hold harmless amount of an LEAs FFY 15 (SY15-16) allocations. The FFY 15 allocations used for the hold harmless were those calculated based on the new allocation model, and prior to USED review and approval.

The FFY 15 allocations have now been reviewed and approved by USED with only minor adjustments. With the completion of the review and the approval, the Department is now re-calculating the FFY 16 planning allocations. Adjusted planning allocations will be provided once that re-calculation is complete. The timeframe to complete the re-calculation cannot be provided at this time as it is dependent on an update of the Title I Database to match the USED model. This update requires re-writing of code and testing of those changes.

The reductions that are currently being seen in the FFY 16 (SY 16-17) allocations are tied to two factors. First, the federal model now being used ensures that no district can fall below hold harmless, if the state-level award level is sufficient for all LEAs to receive their hold harmless amount. There were several districts that fell below hold harmless using the previous allocation model. In order to provide those LEAs with their hold harmless allocations, any LEA above hold harmless will have their allocation ratably reduced.

Secondly, the set asides (1% for SEA administration and up to 4% for School Improvement Grants) under the new model is pulled only from an LEA that is above hold harmless.

Title I Definitions

Districts that meet the requirements will receive up to four funding grants that comprise the Title I, Part A allocation: Basic, Concentration, Targeted, and Education Finance Incentive Grants (EFIG). Eligibility is determined as follows:

1. **Basic Grants** – A district must have at least 10 children in census poverty, and the number of census poverty children must be greater than 2 percent of the district's school-aged population.
2. **Concentration Grants** – A district must have at least 10 children in census poverty, and the number of census poverty children must be greater than 15 percent of the district's school-aged population.
3. **Targeted Grants** – A district must have at least 10 children in census poverty, and the number of census poverty children must be greater than 5 percent of the district's school-aged population.
4. **Educational Finance Incentive Grants (EFIG)** – A district must have at least 10 children in census poverty, and the number of census poverty children must be greater than 5 percent of the district's school-aged population.

HOLD-HARMLESS PROVISIONS

All four grants provide for a variable hold-harmless guarantee for each district. The hold-harmless percentage depends on the formula child rate of each district. For Basic, Targeted, and EFIG, a district must meet the eligibility criteria in order for hold-harmless protection to apply. For Concentration Grants, the hold-harmless provision applies to a district for 4 years after the district no longer meets the eligibility criteria. There is no hold-harmless guarantee if the district becomes ineligible for the Basic, Targeted, or EFIG. Provided the state receives enough Title I, Part A funds to hold each district at the appropriate hold-harmless percentage, no district will receive:

- Less than 95 percent of its previous year's allocation if the number of formula children constitutes 30 percent or more the district's ages 5-17 population;
- Less than 90 percent of its previous year's allocation if the number of formula children is between 15 percent and 30 percent of the district's ages 5-17 population;
- Less than 85 percent of its previous year's allocation if the number of formula children is less than 15 percent of the district's ages 5-17 population.



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Federal Title Grant Programs and Support

Staff Directory

July 2016

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